



Road Safety Management in a Developing Country : The Case of Lebanon

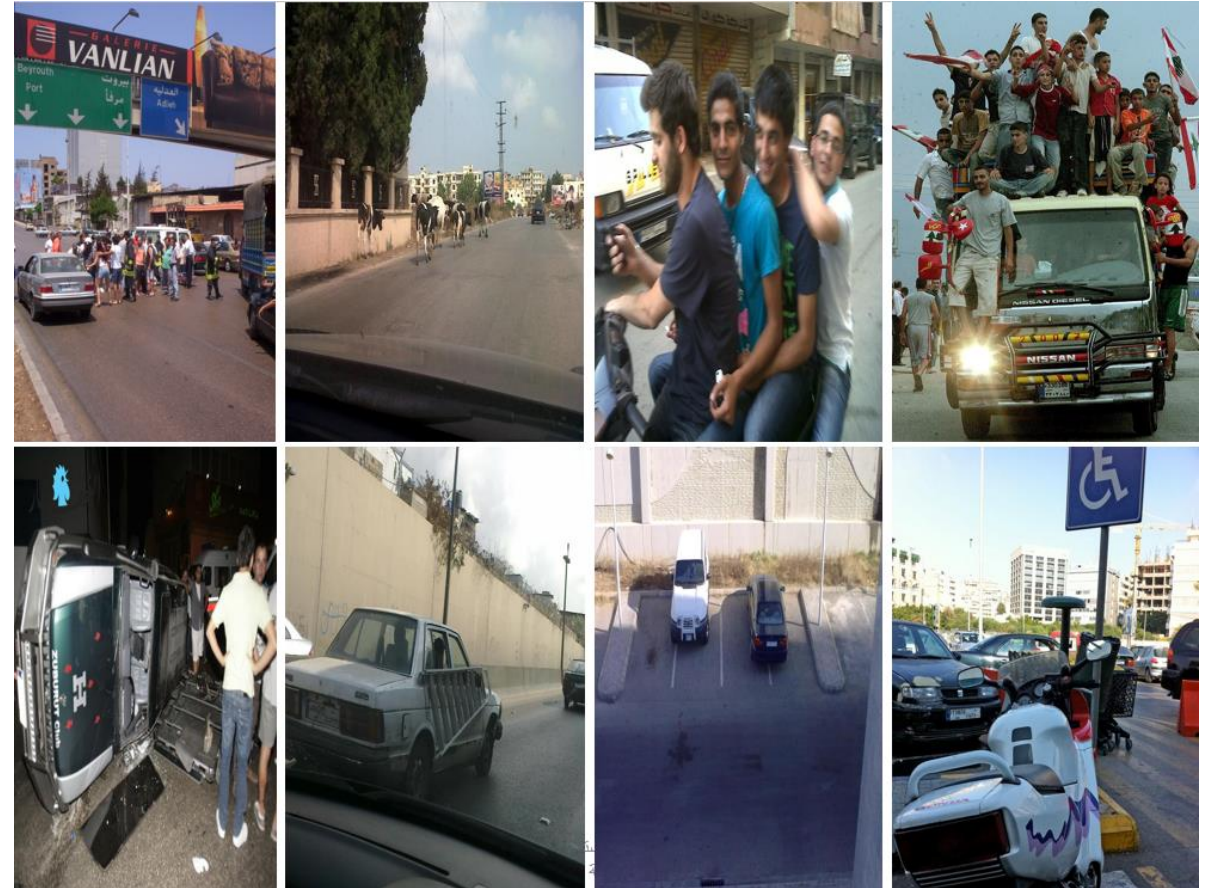
Beirut 2018

Introduction: Summary Situation of Road Safety in Lebanon

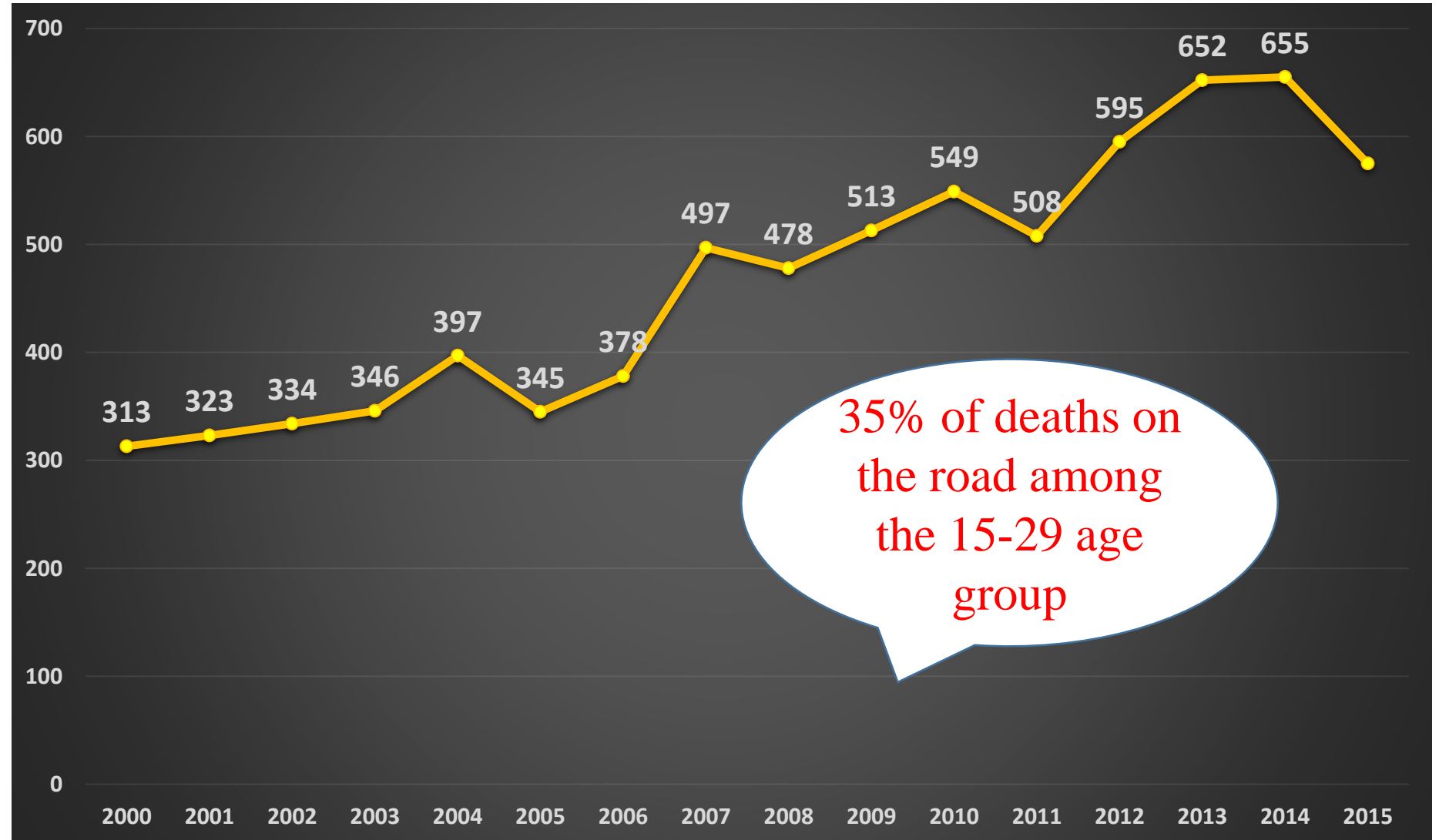
1. Substantive Provisions of the New Traffic Law
 2. The Management of Road Safety
 3. The Way Forward
- ## Conclusion



Summary Situation of Road Safety in Lebanon



Evolution of Road Traffic Fatalities



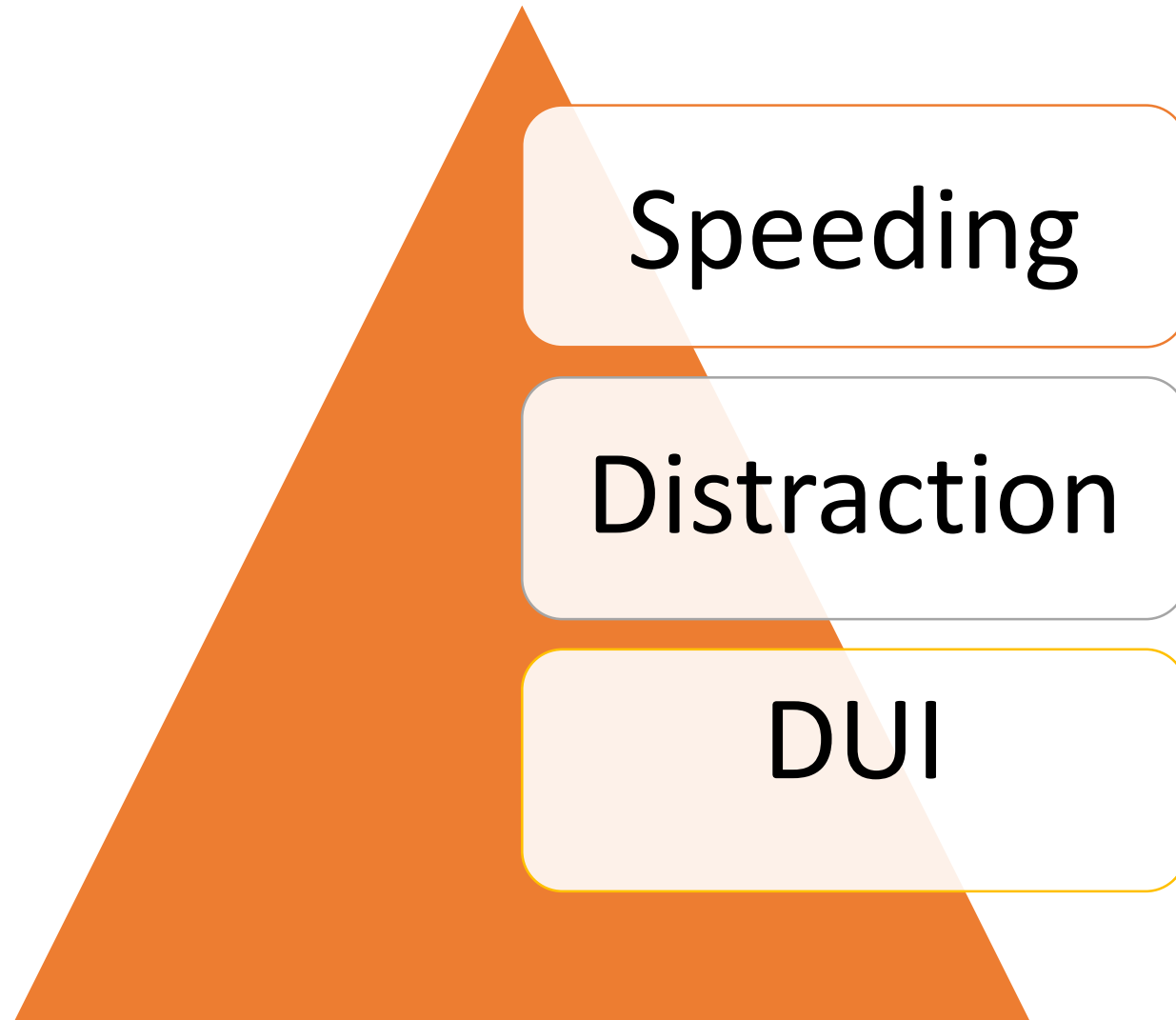
The figures represent the trend and not the actual fatalities due to under-reporting

35% of deaths on the road among the 15-29 age group

The Golden Triangles:

- A. The Factors Conducive to Road Traffic Crashes**
- B. Protection from Severe Injuries**
- C. Vehicle Worthiness**
- D. The Driver's Competence**
- E. Rights of pedestrians**

A. The Factors Conducive to Road Traffic Crashes



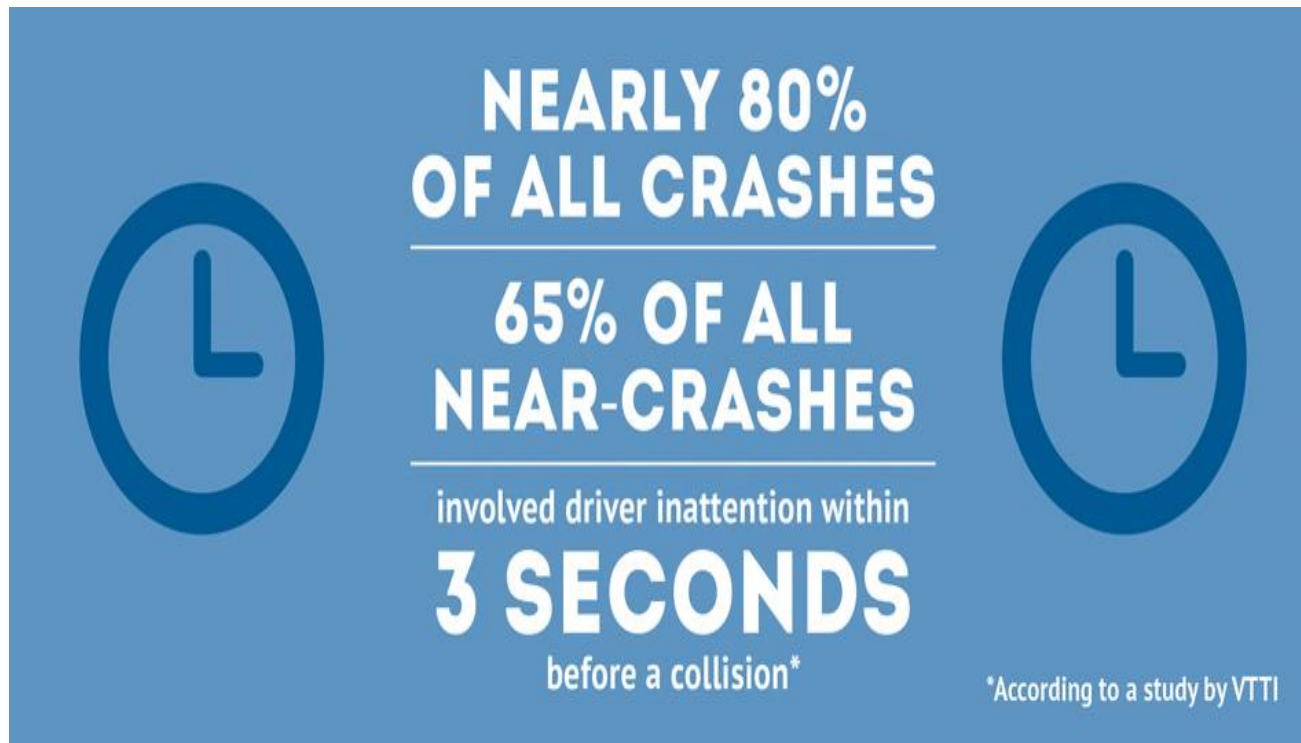
1. Speed violations

1. Speed above the set limit
2. Tailgating
3. Inadequate speed for road condition



2. Distraction

All the attention of the driver should be devoted to the driving task



For drivers of public transport and heavy vehicles

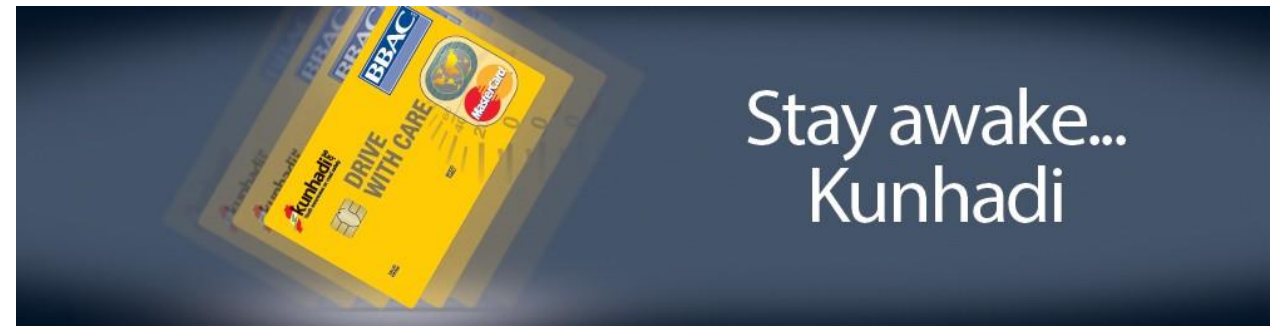
3. No driving under the influence of:

1. Alcohol:

- Maximum alcohol allowed: 0,5g/l of blood
- Zero g/l for novice drivers
- Zero g/l for heavy vehicles drivers

2. Drugs (Recreational & Medical)

3. Drowsiness & Tiredness



B. Protection from Severe Injuries



Seat Belt Use

Helmet use

Child Restraint

B. Protection from Severe Injuries



**Seat belts for the driver
and all passengers**



**Helmets for all
motorcycle riders**

**Children under 12
in back seats.
Various car seats
for various ages**



1. All motor **vehicles should be registered** and bear an identification plate with electronic recognition device
2. **Periodic mechanical inspection** compulsory for all vehicles older than 3 years
3. **Body injuries insurance** compulsory for all motor vehicles



1. Reform of **driving schools**:
 - New comprehensive theoretical and practical **curriculum**
 - Specialized post-secondary diploma for driving **instructors**
 - Extended theoretical and practical **driving exam**
2. **Demerit point system** for serious violations
3. **Rehabilitation courses** for repeated violators



Rights of pedestrians to:



Sidewalks and crossings free from any obstacle

Bicycle lanes and arrangements



Reliable and affordable public transport



2. The Management of Road Safety

1. The National Road Safety Council
2. The National Road Safety Committee
3. The National Secretariat for Road Safety

1. Establishment of a **Ministerial Council on Road Safety**:

- **Chair:** The President of the Council of Ministers
- **Members:** the Ministers of: Interior and Municipalities; Public Works and Transport; Education and Higher Education; Justice.
- **Main tasks:**
 - ✓ Road safety policy making
 - ✓ Supervision of all the public and private bodies concerned with road traffic and road safety
 - ✓ Improve traffic law and road safety rules and regulations

2. Establishment of a **National Committee on Road Safety**:

- **Chair:** The Minister of Interior and Municipalities
- **Members:** 9 high ranking officials from the various concerned ministries and public authorities; 8 representatives of the concerned civil society bodies
- **Main task:** Advice on
 - ✓ Road safety policy
 - ✓ Improvement of traffic law and road safety rules and regulations

3. Establishment of a **National Secretariat for Road Safety**:

- **Chair:** A General Secretary
- **Main Components:**
 - Directorate for Road Safety Engineering Affairs
 - Directorate for Road Safety Education and Awareness
 - Directorate for Traffic Law Enforcement and Follow-up Measures
 - The National Observatory for Mobility and Road Safety
- **Main tasks:**
 - ✓ R&D on road safety
 - ✓ Prepare the decisions of the National Council and Committee
 - ✓ Follow up the decisions

1. Establishment of a specialized Internal Security Forces **traffic brigade**
2. Establishment of a **Traffic Management Center** covering Greater Beirut Area
3. **Use of technology** to support police action:
 - Use of radar to detect speed violations
 - Introduction of Variable Message Signs at key entry points to the capital city

3. The Way Forward



- 1. Reinforcement of the Secretariat**
2. Implementation of the **traffic brigade** and **building** its **capacity** for proper intervention at all levels:
 - Traffic management
 - Enforcement of traffic law
 - Implementation of Demerit Point System
 - Crash investigation
3. Implementation of the **National Observatory for Mobility and Road Safety**

1. Drafting a first national strategy for road safety:

- Towards **safer roads**
- Towards **safer vehicles**
- Towards **safer road users' behavior** through:
 - Comprehensive **road safety education** in the schools
 - Comprehensive **driver education** and driving permit exam
 - Efficient **enforcement of road traffic law**
 - Efficient **road safety communication and awareness campaigns**
- Towards more efficient **post-crash interventions**



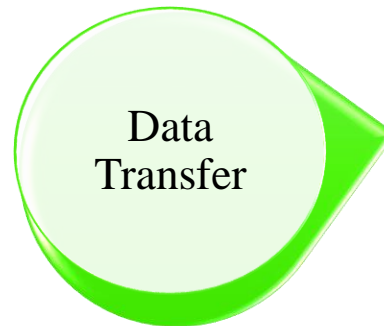
2. Expanding local actions for road safety through:

- Partnerships with more **municipalities** to enhance road safety
- Involving more schools in the “**Safe School**” program
- Coordinating concerned **NGOs** action



3. Expanding knowledge base for appropriate action through:

- Improvement of **crash data system**
- **Partnerships with universities** to conduct research on selected topics
- Production of **analytical annual report** on road safety



1. Although it needs some refinements, notably as regards child restraint, making airbag compulsory, and reducing the fines,

the New Lebanese Traffic Law appears to have adequately **tackled the most important issues** for ensuring road safety,

on the substantive as well as on the management level.

2. However:

- ✓ **Implementation** has been **very slow** due to instability of the government, the lack of appropriate budget and of strategic planning at the State level;
- ✓ The **regulatory framework** foreseen in the law has **not** been **enacted**;
- ✓ **Enforcement** by the security forces and deterrence of violations have been **inconsistent and relatively inefficient**;
- ✓ Reliable **knowledge** base for decision-making is **scarce**.

3. There is **hope** to overcome these shortcomings with the recent adoption by the Parliament of a **proper budget for the lead agency**, pending a new government is put in place in the near future.

Thank you